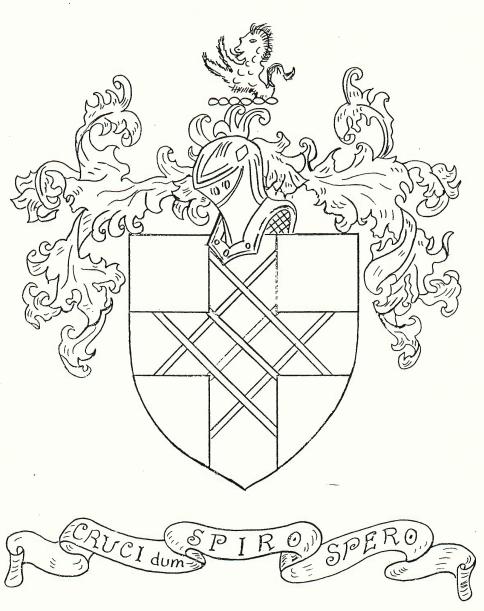
Genealogy File

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NETTERVILLE

VISCOUNT

APRIL 3, 1622

Pascagoula Public Library Local History & Genealogical Dept. Netterville Family

NETTERVILLE ANCESTRY TRACED TO DARK AGES....

The first regular meeting of the descendants of Jerimiah Netterville, one of the earliest settlers of WilkinsonCounty, Mississippi, was held in Duncan Park Pavillion, Natchez on June 20.

Ninety-six members of the family registered, and there were several others present who failed to register.

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 p. m. by the president, Mrs. Winona Netterville Laroussini, Ponchatoula, Louisiana.

At the outset of the meeting, in connection with Father's Day, a gift was given the oldest father present, John Carol Whetstone, Woodville, Miss., the youngestfather present, John Tom Whetstone, Nashville, Tennessee; and the father with the most children, Thomas Flowers, Natchez, Mississippi. The person who traveled the greatest distance for the family reunion was Chestley Netterville of Stettler, Alberta, Canada. The youngest descendant present was James Lee Netterville, age 3 months, Nashville, Tennessee. The oldest lady attending was Mrs. Nan Netterville Jett, Woodville, the only living granddaughter of Jeremiah Netterville.

The president explained the picture pedigrees and how these may be obtained and filled out. All members of the Netterville Clan were urged to collect the war records and other interesting data on their particular lines of the Nettrerville family.

The vice-president, Dr. Rush E. Netterville, Jackson, introduced the speaker, Howard Netterville, of Memphis, who spoke at some length on the background and lineage of the Netterville family, and of his own visit to an ancient castle. A part of his speech follows:

"The Netterville clan goes back a good deal - in fact, to the province of Normandy, in France. This is between Calais and Paris. The Angles and Saxons were conquered by the Normans, under William the Conqueror, at the Battle of Hastings, in 1066. The Nettervilles intermingled and settled in Ireland, in a very small place called Dowth".

"In 1953 I drove to Dowth in a taxi cab from Dublin, about 30 miles to the Southeast, to visit old Netterville Castle. Dowth was difficult to find even with the aid of a map and a taxi driver who was somewhat familiar with the country.

"The castle is at present in a state of ruin. Next door is the home for the aged, founded by the Viscount Nicholas Netterville, and left in trust of the Earl of Dowth who administers the funds which are derived from this old estate. Six aged women are living there now.

"The small chapel next to the castle is thickly ivied. In a window was noted a coat of arms, and in another, a picture of a priest, Robert Netterville, being killed by Cromwell's soldiers.

"Over the place where the altar once stood, and filling the space of the easternwindow, is a marble slab erected by the sixth Viscount Netterville in memory of his father, the Lord Nicholas, his wife Anne, and their daughter Catherine 'who be interred here.'

"Near the chapel is the old Netterville burial place which was used for centuries. There are many tombs with interesting inscriptions.

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"One thing they say about our relatives is that they were either always praying or fighting. Many were priests and one was an archbishop. One was a cardinal and two were nuns.

"The family was Catholic, and remained so until two or three hundred years ago when they became Protestant.

"The name Netterville was derived from the French, and was originally two words meaning "clean town."

The last Netterville in Ireland died a few weeks before the speaker's visit. He was able, however, to contact a lady in Naas, south of Dublin, who had a tremendous amount of material on the Netterville family.

The speaker read the following excerpt from the "Weekly Irish Times", dated June 29, 1941:

"The Nettervilles were associated with Dowth for close on seven centuries, a remarkable record of continuous connection with a district, unequalled by any Anglo-Norman-Irish family, except, perhaps, in the case of the Fitzgeralds, the Butlers, the De-Burgos, and the Barrys. This noble family is said to have derived its pedigree from Charles Duke of Normandy and to have come to Ireland in the person of Sir Formal de Netterville."

He then urged any who could to visit the old castle in Dowth. "The trip is interesting and worth while," he asserted.

Next on the program was Mrs. Laroussini, who pointed out that the first Netterville settler in America was Sir William, who came to Charleston, South Carolina. Five of this sons were among the earliest settlers of Wilkinson County. The fifth son, Jeremiah, born in 1777 was the founder of the assembled branch of the Netterville family.

Jeremiah had three sons, Jesse Mathis, William Brown, and John Thomas, she said.

Next on the program was the election of the following officers to serve during the coming year.

President - Dr. Rush E. Netterville.

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HEN I FIRST HAD A GEANOLOGIEST TO WORK FOR ME IN 1931, HE GAVE ME THIS CHART AS CORRECT: BUT LATER YEARS I HAVE FOUND THERE S A MISTAKE IN IT AT:-128 & 129. WILLIAM (129) IS NOT A SON OF NICHOLAS (128). AS YET I HAVE NOT GOTTEN THE CHAIN TRAIGHTENED OUT THERE; BUT THIS WILLIAM IS A G-GRANDSON TO NICHOLAS (126), THIS I HAVE GENEALOGIEST WORKING ON NOW BUT